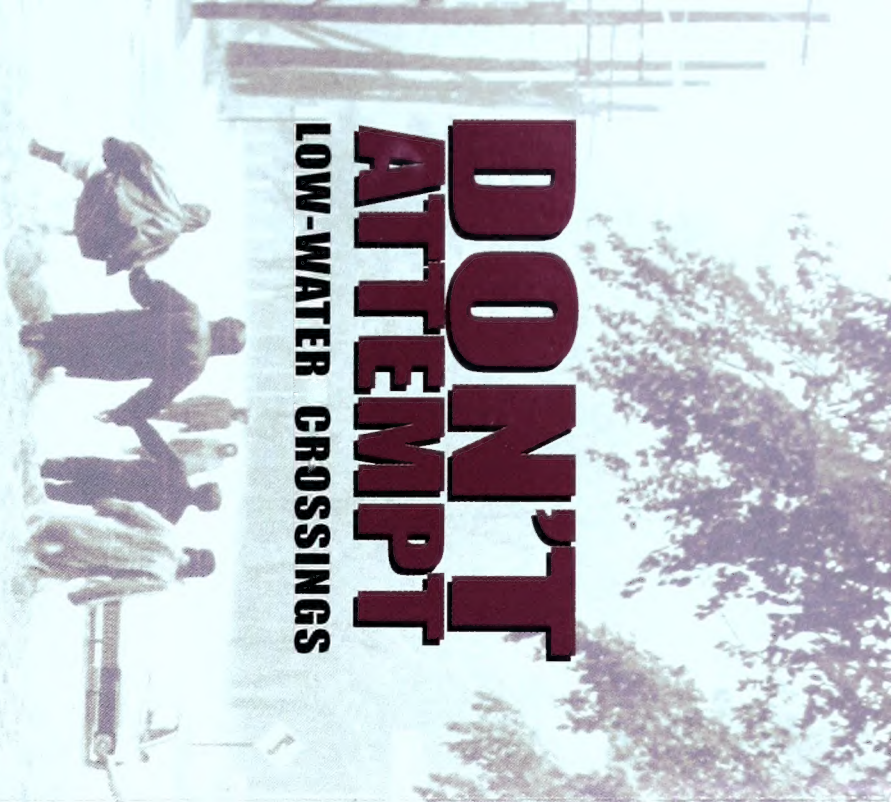


DON'T ATTEMPT LOW-WATER CROSSINGS



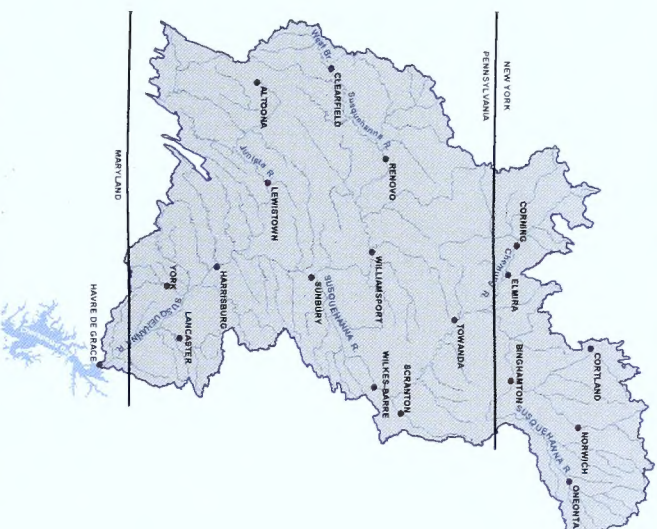
- It takes as little as 6 inches to 2 feet of water to make a vehicle buoyant.
- Each flood event is different. Even though you may have crossed a particular flooded roadway before, there is no guarantee that you'll make it across the next time. The water could be higher and/or flowing faster.
- Always use extra caution when driving on a rainy night. Be aware of low-lying roadways. If visibility is impaired to the point that you cannot see what lies ahead, **PULL OVER** and wait out the storm. Those minutes could save your life and those of your passengers.
- Knowing how to swim won't necessarily help. Flood waters are unpredictable. The forceful, swirling water can pull you under immediately and carry you for long distances.
- If caught in a flooded roadway, it is better to slow down. Faster speeds only increase the likelihood of losing control of the vehicle.

Photo from the collection of The Historical Society of Dauphin County.

What is the Susquehanna River Basin Commission?

The Susquehanna River Basin Commission (SRBC) is a federal-interstate compact commission established by the U.S. Congress and the states of New York, Pennsylvania and Maryland.

SRBC's mission is to protect and wisely manage the water resources of the Susquehanna River Basin.



The Susquehanna River Basin drains a 27,510-square-mile area of New York, Pennsylvania and Maryland.

Susquehanna River Basin Commission

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HIDDEN CROSSING FLOODED ROADWAYS DANGER

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The Hidden Danger of Low-Water Crossings...

is a 30-minute educational program produced by the Susquehanna River Basin Commission. This program serves to educate current and future drivers on the life-threatening danger of driving on flooded roadways.

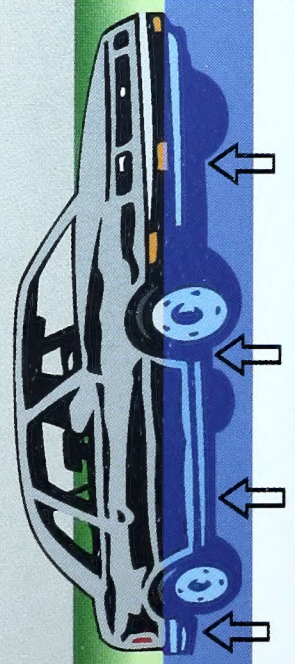
What is a low-water crossing?

A low-water crossing is a section of roadway that descends near a streambed and is quickly inundated during flash floods or rapid snow melts, creating an extremely dangerous obstacle for drivers. The term "low-water" refers to the proximity of the road to the nearest waterway not to the level of water on the roadway.

Why is a low-water crossing dangerous?

Flood waters are extremely fast flowing, forceful, and unpredictable. Vehicles can become buoyant and quickly be swept away. Compact cars can become buoyant with as little as 5 inches of water above the floorboard, and just a few more inches will float larger vehicles.

1 ft. of water = 1,500 lbs. of displacement



DON'T ATTEMPT LOW-WATER CROSSINGS

Fatal tragedies occur when drivers attempt low-water crossings. In fact, according to the National Weather Service, nearly half of all flood-related deaths are vehicle related.

Are low-water crossings a problem in the Susquehanna River Basin?

Yes...Flooding is a reality in the basin, and unfortunately, so are the flood-related deaths. The Susquehanna basin is one of the nation's most flood-prone areas and suffers a major devastating flood along the main stem of the Susquehanna River on average once every 20 years. The basin also experiences frequent, localized flash flooding every year.

Flood Hazard Training...

The Hidden Danger of Low-Water Crossings training program is free of charge and can be mailed directly to your school or organization. The program is especially beneficial to high school and adult driver education courses.

The training packet includes the following:

- instructor's script
- one 8-minute VHS video produced by the National Weather Service (this video can also be viewed on the web at www.srbc.net/flood_forecasting/damages.htm)
- set of transparencies
- copies of this brochure for distribution

Staff of the Susquehanna River Basin Commission also are available to conduct this training program for your school or organization.

Through this training program, the Susquehanna River Basin Commission is educating drivers on the dangers of crossing flooded roadways and the importance of exercising good judgement when confronted by these hidden dangers.